



Cotton/Soybean Insect Newsletter

Volume 8, Issue #5

Edisto Research & Education Center in Blackville, SC

6 June 2013

Pest Patrol Hotline

The information contained herein each week is available via a toll-free hotline. I will update the short message weekly for at least as long as the newsletter runs. Call the free number (877) 285-8525 and select the messages you would like to hear. Select #1 for updates from the Southern Region. Select #3 for the Southeast, and then select #1 to hear my message. Text alerts are also available. The hotline is sponsored by Syngenta.

Cotton/Soybean Insect Workshops

We are offering two workshops in June devoted to insect sampling, identification, and management in cotton and soybeans. At each workshop, we will have an indoor and in-field program, allowing for some hands-on training. We will offer pesticide recertification and CCA credits after the training. The first workshop will be here at the Edisto REC (64 Research Rd, Blackville, SC 29817 – just west of Blackville on Hwy 78) on 20 June. Please RSVP to me so that I can get a headcount for lunch (green4@clemson.edu).

The second one will be the following week on 27 June at the Pee Dee REC (2200 Pocket Road, Florence, 29506)...details soon. Please RSVP to me so that I can get a headcount for lunch (green4@clemson.edu).

News from Above the Lakes

Hannah Mikell, county agent in Clarendon County, reported that she has “seen [minor] damage to some soybeans around Goat Island due to defoliators (bean leaf beetles)...also seen some damage to young cotton from thrips but most cotton has been sprayed already.” Look for defoliators, but, we can take 30% defoliation before bloom.

News from Below the Lakes

Plenty of thrips on cotton, and plenty of kudzu bugs on soybeans.

News from the Piedmont/Upstate

Jay Crouch, county agent in Newberry, reported that he “was in a bean field looking at another issue this morning [Tuesday], and found LOTS of kudzu bugs on some of the plants. Interesting thing was that egg masses were easily found and some of them had recently hatched.”



The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

Public Service Activities

The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.



Cotton Situation

As of 3 June 2013, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had the cotton crop at 79% planted, well behind where we were last year at 90% planted and the 5-yr average of 92% planted. Conditions for the cotton crop were described as 0% very poor, 4% poor, 34% fair, 60% good, and 2% excellent. Although we are getting some widespread rain now, soil moisture conditions as a whole for the state were described as 25% short, 73% adequate, and 2% surplus, with soils quickly drying. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

Current Problems in Cotton

There has been a lot of thrips activity so far this season, and the pressure on the crop is starting to show. The pictures below show what progressively worsening injury looks like on untreated plants. Some are showing signs of losing the terminal because of the sustained heavy feeding – continue to scout/treat as needed.



What will all of this rain do to thrips? I have been hearing that question along with what should be done about thrips protection after this storm passes. It rained most of the day Thursday as the storm tracked up through GA and SC (picture at right) and there is more rain behind the storm. That will most likely keep us out of the field until mid-week next week. If the sun comes out in between, and the forecasters say it will, these plants are going to want to “jump” out of the ground and grow so fast...will they outgrow thrips, or will we need to spray a little later (after 4-5 leaves) this season to cover the late/heavy thrips? Those are questions we might answer this way. We have a ton of data that tell us that we are wasting money on controlling thrips after we have 5 true leaves on the plant and growing conditions are favorable for cotton. Also, rain does impact thrips populations, particularly when it is very heavy and sustained. This is what we basically had with this storm system. So, my take on our current situation is this – we have to wait to see what we have next week, but my thinking is that problems with thrips will subside next week because of the rain, ample (if not excessive) moisture, and fast-growing plants. Let’s see what happens next week.



The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

Public Service Activities

The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.



Soybean Situation

As of 3 June 2013, the USDA NASS South Carolina Statistical Office had the soybean crop at 57% planted, close to where we were last year at 59% and the 5-yr average of 59% planted. About 37% of the soybean crop has emerged, behind where we were last year at 46% and the 5-yr average of 44%. These are observed/perceived state-wide averages.

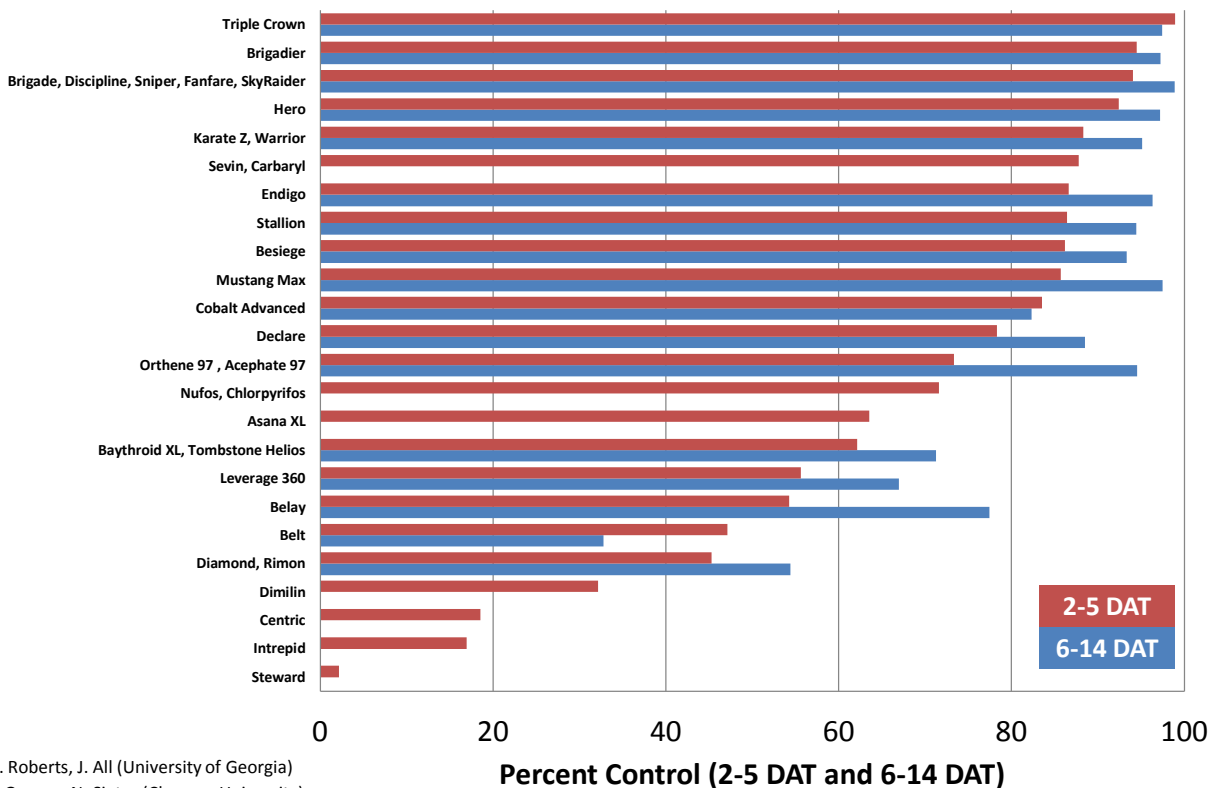
Kudzu Bugs

I still think that we should be using border sprays to address early infestations of kudzu bug when possible. However, those decisions will need to be made on a field-by-field basis. Our best recommendations are located in a kudzu bug field guide the USB helped us produce last year that is available online at:

<http://digital.turn-page.com/i/87846>

Insecticides are effective in killing this species, and the summary below (put together by Dr. Phillip Roberts, UGA) contains efficacy data from GA, SC, and NC. The pyrethroids are the most reliable, with bifenthrin consistently proving to be very active on this insect. That active ingredient is in the top 4 products below.

Kudzu Bug Insecticide Efficacy Summary (2010-2012)



P. Roberts, J. All (University of Georgia)
J. Greene, N. Sieter (Clemson University)
D. Reisig, J. Bachelier (North Carolina State University)
16-Jan-13

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

Public Service Activities

The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.



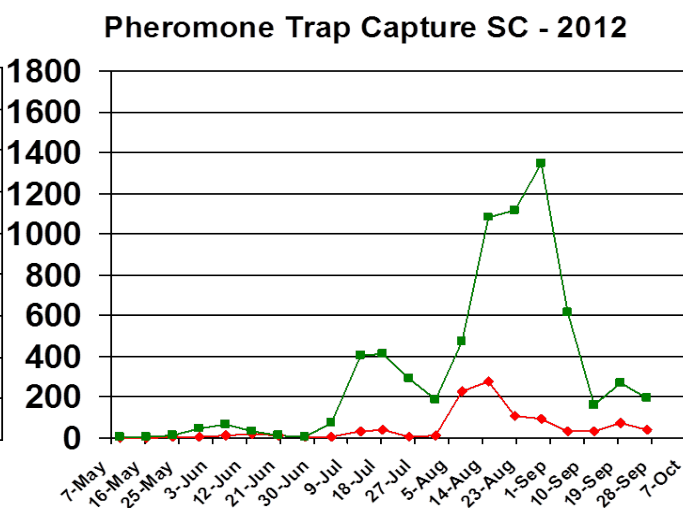
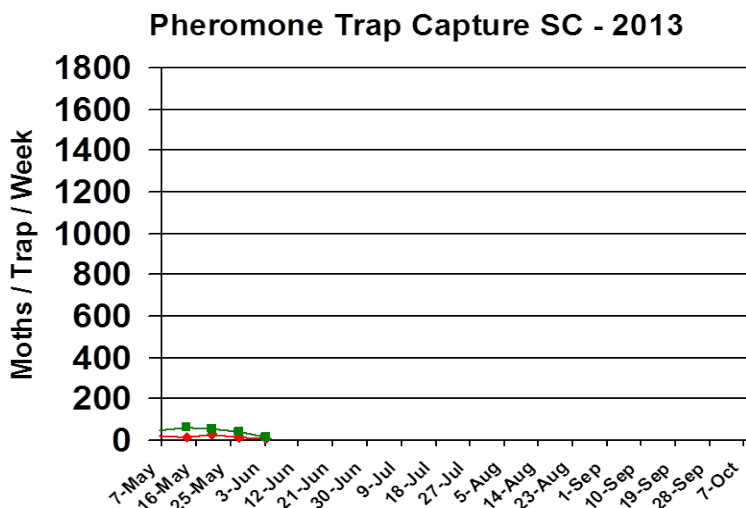
The latest distribution for the kudzu bug in the southeastern USA can be viewed at the link below. Anytime you want to check the map, click on the link below, and you will be taken to the updated map:

<http://maps.bugwood.org/eddmappscustomcounty2.cfm?map=5&legend=bottom&height=600&width=550>

Bollworm & Tobacco Budworm



Captures of bollworm (BW) and tobacco budworm (TBW) moths in pheromone traps at EREC this season are shown below, as are the captures from 2012 for reference. Tobacco budworm continues to be important for our soybean acres and for a very limited number of non-Bt-cotton acres. I provide these data as a measure of moth activity in our local area as an indication of moth presence and activity near my research plots. The numbers are not necessarily representative of the species throughout the state.



Sprayer Calibration Mobile App



Download our free mobile app called “Calibrate My Sprayer” that helps check for proper calibration of spraying equipment (available in both iOS and Android formats): <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/mobile-apps/>

Pest Management Handbook - 2013

Insect control recommendations are available online in the 2013 South Carolina Pest Management Handbook at: <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/pest/>

Need More Information?

For more Extension information: <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/>

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

Public Service Activities

The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.



For historical cotton/soybean insect newsletters:

http://www.clemson.edu/extension/rowcrops/cotton/pest_management/newsletters/index.html

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy K. Greene".

Jeremy K. Greene, Ph.D.
Professor – Entomologist



Visit our website at:
<http://www.clemson.edu>

The Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer. Clemson University Cooperating with U.S. Department of Agriculture, South Carolina Counties, Extension Service, Clemson, South Carolina.

Public Service Activities

The mention of any commercial product in this publication does not imply its endorsement by Clemson University over other products not named, nor does the omission imply that they are not satisfactory.